

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Aquatic Resources
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

December 14, 2007

Board of Land
and Natural Resources
Honolulu, Hawaii

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ADD FUNDING (\$158,155) AND INCREASE
SCOPE OF SERVICES OF A RESEARCH CORPORATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
HAWAII STREAM/ESTUARINE STUDIES PROJECT AGREEMENT
(CONTRACT NO. 51059) IN FY08

Submitted herewith for your consideration is a request to amend an existing project Agreement between the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii (RCUH). The Amendment will provide an additional \$158,155 to the contract. Funding is from a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service State Wildlife Grant (\$100,000), with a State match component (\$58,155) provided by the Commission on Water Resources Management to the Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR). The increased scope of services will be conducted from January 2, 2008 through June 30, 2008; thus, the termination date of the FY08 Project Agreement remains unchanged.

The Stream/Estuarine Fisheries Studies (Contract No. 51059) project involves research on native stream species and adjoining estuarine habitats. Ongoing work in FY08 includes conducting stream surveys, especially streams or stream sections not yet surveyed, finalizing the DAR Aquatic Survey Geo-database, providing spatial analysis using GIS software, standardizing data collection, assessing/defining the links between stream and estuarine ecosystems and coastal recreational fish species.

One of DAR's overarching goals concerning Stream/Estuarine Fisheries Studies is to improve the ability to estimate the appropriate instream flow standards that will conserve and protect native stream animals. These additional funds will be used to systematically address the issue of predicting natural distributions of native aquatic animals in unsurveyed or highly modified streams. Specifically, the funds will be used to develop a series of predictive species distribution models based on data within the DAR Aquatic Surveys Database. The models, along with field survey information and GIS-based spatial maps, will be used to predict the instream distribution of aquatic animals, leading to estimations of natural stream community membership. This will ultimately allow DAR to estimate the range of possible impacts of instream flow conditions on Hawaii's streams.

The RCUH Agreement enables DAR to secure assistance from RCUH in implementing the project. RCUH's assistance is required in order for the DAR to meet project goals and objectives in a timely way. Approvals to amend the Agreement are being sought concurrently from the Governor, through the Department of Budget and Finance for review and approval; and the Attorney General's Office for preliminary approval as to form.

RECOMMENDATION:

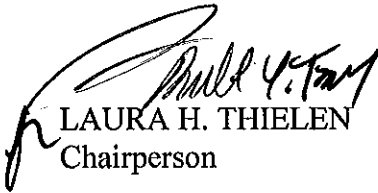
"That the Board authorize the Chairperson to negotiate and, subject to necessary approvals, amend a Project Agreement, Contract No. 51059, with the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii in FY 08."

Respectfully submitted,



DAN POLHEMUS
Administrator

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



LAURA H. THIELEN
Chairperson